

Technical Services Bulletin Motorcycle & Scooter Tires

Chronological Age of New (Unused) Motorcycle & Scooter Tires

Tire aging occurs very slowly to new tires through chemical and physical processes only if the tire is stored properly.

When stored under the recommended conditions (cool, dry, away from direct light, chemicals and ozone sources), a tire will maintain its original performance characteristics over a long period.

A properly stored, unused tire up to 5 years old can be sold as a new tire and placed into normal service if no local legal regulations are opposed to it.

Note: the warranty period begins with the purchase date of the tire.

Continental recommends that all tires that are over 10 years old (as shown on the tire's date stamp) should be replaced with new tires.

Reference Continental Recommendations:

- Tire Storage Recommendations for Motorcycle & Scooter Tires
- Tire Service Life for Motorcycle & Scooter Tires

Determining the Chronological Age of Tires from their Date Stamps

The chronological age of any tire can be found on one of the tire sidewalls by examining the four-digit manufacturing date stamp.

Usually but not exclusively, the date stamp follows the "DOT" marking and manufacturer related alpha numeric digits.

The last four numbers of the entire string identify the date of manufacture. The first two of these four numbers identify the week of manufacture (which range from "01" to "53"), the last two numbers identify the year of manufacture (e.g., a tire with the information "DOT XXXXXXXX2717" was manufactured in the 27th week of 2017).

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